

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as shown below. A complete listing of all claims is as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for coating a plurality of stents, wherein at least a portion of a stent each stent in the plurality of stents is coated, comprising:

providing a stent holder adapted to move stents into and out of a coating chamber in a continuous fashion;

providing a frozen target including a polymer and a therapeutic agent;

having the holder move at least a first stent into the coating chamber;

directing an energy beam at the frozen target while at least the first stent is in the coating chamber;

vaporizing at least a portion of the frozen target with the energy beam into a vapor while at least the first stent is in the coating chamber; and

contacting at least the first stent with the vapor, thereby coating at least a portion of the first stent with the polymer and therapeutic agent;

having the holder move at least the first stent out of the coating chamber;

having the holder move at least a second stent into the coating chamber;

directing an energy beam at the frozen target while at least the second stent is in the coating chamber;

vaporizing at least a portion of the frozen target with the energy beam into a vapor while at least the second stent is in the coating chamber; and

contacting at least the second stent with the vapor, thereby coating at least a portion of the second stent with the polymer and therapeutic agent.

2. Canceled.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising dissolving the therapeutic agent and polymer in a solvent to prepare a target solution, the target solution adapted to form the frozen target.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising:
freezing the target solution to make the frozen target; and
mounting the frozen target on a refrigerated assembly.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the refrigerated assembly is adapted to rotate.
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, further comprising:
~~enclosing the frozen target and the stent in a vacuum chamber; and~~
removing by a pump the solvent from the vacuum chamber after deposition of the polymer and therapeutic agent ~~on the stent~~.
7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising directing a gas flow to transport the vapor to the stents.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the energy beam is pulsed.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising directing at least one of the energy beam and another energy beam at another frozen target, the other frozen target including another agent, the at least one of the energy beam and the other energy beam vaporizing the other target into another vapor.

10.-30. Canceled.

31. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein another portion of at least the first stent is not coated.

32. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein another portion of at least the first stent is coated with another agent.

33. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein at least one end of at least the first stent is coated.